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| APPLICATION NO.        | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/534,898             | 05/13/2005  | Su Jian              | 41941.8005.US02     | 2021             |
| 34055                  | 7590        | 09/22/2008           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| PERKINS COIE LLP       |             |                      | LOWE, MICHAEL S     |                  |
| POST OFFICE BOX 1208   |             |                      | ART UNIT            |                  |
| SEATTLE, WA 98111-1208 |             |                      | PAPER NUMBER        |                  |
|                        |             |                      | 3652                |                  |
|                        |             |                      | MAIL DATE           |                  |
|                        |             |                      | DELIVERY MODE       |                  |
|                        |             |                      | 09/22/2008          |                  |
|                        |             |                      | PAPER               |                  |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                                       |                                 |  |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b><br>10/534,898  | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>JIAN, SU |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b><br>Michael Scott Lowe | <b>Art Unit</b><br>3652         |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 July 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 March 2008 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 7/15/08 has been entered.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Merkle (US 4,381,899).

Re claim 1, Merkle teaches a vertical (generally figures 1,3,4) lifting device for cargo transportation comprising hydraulic lifting assemblies (generally 30), a fixture (generally 28), a relatively thin and generally rectangular (generally see figure 2) lifting platform (generally 45) having enforcement beams (generally 74) located at each of a first pair of opposed sides, wherein the lifting platform is connected to the fixture via the hydraulic lifting assemblies, one end of each of the hydraulic lifting assemblies is secured to the fixture, and the other end of each of the hydraulic lifting assemblies is

secured to the corresponding enforcement beam, and the connection points of each hydraulic lifting assembly to the lifting platform are located on the respective one of the first pair of opposed sides.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's arguments filed 7/15/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argued that Merkle does not have an enforcement beam and that a pivot connection cannot be an enforcement beam since applicant argued that pivots cannot provide stability for load bearing purposes. This is not true as stated by applicant and the rejection Merkle does have an enforcement beam(s) (generally 74, figure 2) which does provide stability for load bearing purposes as it allows the platform to be lifted and lowered. It is also noted that Merkle's enforcement beam includes not only the pivot but also pivot attachment beams and applicant's drawings clearly show that the inventor's enforcement beams are also pivotally attached in essentially the same fashion.

Applicant argued that his/her invention has a relatively thin lifting platform. However, Merkle's lifting platform is also relatively thin.

Applicant argued that the location of the connection points is different. However, as clearly shown in the figures Merkle is connected at opposite sides which is also between the front and rear of the platform, this again is the same fashion applicant's device is connected and meets the claim limitations.

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., the device function) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Scott Lowe whose telephone number is (571)272-6929. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30am-4:30pm M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saul Rodriguez can be reached on (571)272-7097. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Michael Scott Lowe/  
Examiner, Art Unit 3652